Shatabdi Express between Chennai and Tirupati

435. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether works for augmenting the amenities for rail users at Tirupati station were undertaken in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed Shatabdi Express train between Chennai and Tirupati has since been introduced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following works for augmentation of passenger amenities were undertaken at Tirupati station during the current year:—

(i) Provision of washable apron.

(ii) Improvements to lighting.

(iii) Extension of Foot-over-Bridge (FOB) to connect the reservation complex.

(iv) Replacement of existing manual Public Address System with microprocessor based system.

(v) Replacement of old furniture in waiting rooms and retiring rooms.

(vi) Provision of amenities for persons with disabilities.

(vii) Provision of additional ceiling fan.

(viii) Provision of booking office near FOB at Renigunta end.

(ix) Replacement of corroded gutters on Platform nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4.

(x) Provision of additional retiring room.

(xi) Provision of seats—9 nos.

(xii) Provision of 2nd FOB on Pakala end.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) It was not found commercially viable.